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had begun. Its syntax and, to some extent, its vocabulary belong to the early stages of that transformation alluded to above. This lexicon enables to trace onward the changes in form and vocabulary which had begun in the period to which the New Testament belongs. It is therefore a valuable aid to word-study for the specialist in biblical philology. The introduction contains a historical sketch of the various transition-periods of the language and a list of the chief authors belonging to each. It is presented in a superb form by the Messrs. Scribner of New York.

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### THE STORY OF THE PSALMS.\*

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The title is deceptive. Not the story of *the Psalms*, but of *some Psalms*—eighteen of them. These chapters are good examples of historical exposition. If any one desires to see how wonderfully fresh and living these ancient songs become when they are placed in the setting of their historical circumstances, let him read this book. This is its characteristic excellence. Old familiar Psalms, like the Twenty-third, the Fifty-first, the Ninetieth, gleam and glow like newly polished jewels. The writer is well-read in modern exegetical literature, and is master of an attractive style. There is nothing particularly new or striking either in the method or the materials, but the general impression is pleasing. We are ready for more of the same sort. Other preachers would do well to master this excellent method. Congregations of Christian people everywhere would be instructed and stimulated by similar discourses—for we suspect these to have been once sermons. The book is to be commended to Bible students as an excellent road to a true knowledge and use of the Psalter. It may prepare the way for some into a conception of these Songs hitherto undreamed of. To all it will be elevating and inspiring.

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\* THE STORY OF THE PSALMS. By Henry Van Dyke, D. D., Pastor of the Brick Church in New York; author of "The Reality of Religion." New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1887.